



ABOVE: (L-R): Caroline Searcy, Cheryl & John Rennie, Bill Adam, and Tina & Scott Brodie  
BELOW: (L-R): Jan Robertson, Melanie Lawrence, Michael Costa and Sharon Bennie

# FUND-RAISING NIGHT 'SPARKLES'



AN EXCELLENT NIGHT WAS HAD BY ALL AT A CHARITY VENTURE TO RAISE FUNDS FOR NSW THOROUGHBRED REHABILITATION TRUST WORDS: SHARON LENTON PICTURES: CAROLINE TAYLOR

When it comes to charity events it must be said the racing industry is extremely generous. At Sir Stamford Circular Quay, a sell-out event brought various racing people together to attend "Jewel in the Night" which my event company proudly presented.

This function was to raise funds for NSW Thoroughbred Rehabilitation Trust (NSW TRT) to sponsor an ex-racehorse through the program and to bring awareness to this cause; what it also brought was passion.

Cheryl Rennie, a volunteer at the program, said: "This is the first time anyone has put on cocktail party for us."

The volunteers and workers at Canterbury Park showed their appreciation by attending and Cheryl was the first one to put up her hand to give the event her unconditional time as did Di Irvin and Sandra Sleeman.

These women, along with Julie Steel, worked tirelessly throughout the night to raise the funds to achieve our goal. Charity events cannot be run without the kind support of so many people.

Carolyn Searcy from TVN gave up her time to MC the night – a cause dear to Carolyn's heart. Carolyn kicked off the night welcoming everyone and thanking our sponsors Sky Racing, Luxbet, Blue Pyrenees, Sir Stamford Circular Quay, Darcy's Restaurant Italian Cuisine, Barramundi Café, Skinnygirl Cocktail, Peeptoe Shoes, Australian Turf Club, Trumps Alto Ego, Marriott Hotel-Gold Coast, Scone Race Club, and the Vardis Venues.

Scott Brodie, Retraining Manager of NSW TRT, addressed the event explaining how the program runs, what has been achieved and the future of this program.

Scott's dedication and passion to this much-needed charity in the racing industry was felt throughout the whole room. Scott certainly captured everyone's heart.

After dinner, the men were excused to the lounge area to taste Blue Pyrenees' fine reds, while the women enjoyed a fashion parade by Moss & Spy and Living Silk. All outfits were accompanied with millinery by Philomena Kwok.

It was Sarah Rawiller who stole the spotlight as the effervescent celebrity model especially when her husband Nash arrived.

What an effort for Nash to attend this event after just riding and winning the Newcastle Cup on Glencadam Gold.

Sarah, during one of her twirls, lent down to give her husband a winning kiss to a round of applause.

And while Karen Pollicino, part-owner of Glencadam Gold was at this event, husband Philip rang to wish her a lovely



night while he stayed in Newcastle to celebrate their much-deserved win.

Also in attendance was part-owner of Piero, Donna Kolivos. We must thank Donna for going home and telling her husband Greg, what a great night she had.

Greg was a guest on Sky Racing Radio's 'Sports Sunday' program and Jimmy Smith (also at the event) let out a few secrets about Piero.

Both men gave this event and the NSW Thoroughbred Rehabilitation Program a raving review on air.

In summary, there were many prizes won, many silent auction prizes bought, and a great number of balloons purchased with one major winner taking home with them the "Jewel in the Night" precious stone ring donated by Claire Aristides Fine Jewels.

We would like to thank everyone who attended this event including Ray McDowell (President of NSW Racehorse Owners Association), fellow director Justice Wayne Haylen, the beautiful Christy Johns (Sky Racing), John & Carol Hopwood (Events NSW); to just name a few who helped raise our achieved financial goal. At this point, thank you to Wyong Race Club for purchasing the major silent auction item of the night.

We are all proud sponsors of Shadow Assassin, a former racehorse who won over \$300,000 in prizemoney.

Shadow Assassin has been transported, with the assistance of Sydney Horse Transport (supporters of this program), to St Heliers Correctional Centre, Muswellbrook to commence his training.

I will be happy to keep you updated on Shadow Assassin's progress as well as future events. **RNSW**

Models wearing Moss & Spy; headpieces by Philomena Kwok